

THE DOT, VOCABULARY:

Dot: It is the smallest and most simple element in art expression. Its first target is to indicate a position since it doesn't follow any direction. It may have different qualities such as size, shape and color.

The dot three-dimensional capacity: When the size, shapes and colors are changed, the dots can create visual sensations of spatial depth and volume.

The dot expressive capacity: The point has an unlimited capacity to represent images and to express ideas and emotions. To do so, visual effects are used.

Optical Mix: When colors are mixed with the help of distance. Paint isn't mixed on the palette or on the painting. The optical mix was used first by the pointillists.

TWO WAYS OF FILLING IN SURFACES WITH DOTS:

Dots gathering: When several dots are put together too close to each other they are perceived as color spots.

Dots dispersion /spreading: When several dots are dispersed from each other.

DEFINITIONS ABOUT LINES:

Line: It can be defined as a dot in movement. It has position and direction in the space and one of its principal functions consists in marking the shapes' outlines.

Zig Zag or Broken lines: They are formed by fragments of several straight lines with different directions.

Wavy line: They are formed by several fragments of curved lines.

Curly lines: They hold more curves than wavy lines and show loops.

Scribble / Doodle: Chaotic or meaningless lines that are traced randomly, usually in the first stages of childhood or to fill in some area with a particular texture.

Hatching: It is a way of shading or giving tones to the areas of objects or surfaces with parallel lines.

Cross-Hatching: It is a way of shading areas of a drawing or surfaces with parallel lines in several directions.

Dashed (or dotted) lines: They are lines which are not continuous, formed by little traces or dots.

Blurred or blurry Lines: They are very soft or vanished so they are hard to see and opposite to intense and deep.

Simple Lines: Those that are formed by one only type of line.

Composite lines: They are lines composed by fragments of several straight or curved lines.

EXPRESSIVENESS OF LINES

Vertical lines expressiveness: They express an ascendent or descendent movement, depending on how they are used.

Horizontal lines expressiveness: They produce a visual feeling of stability and calmness or tranquility, but they can be monotone if they are used too much.

Skew lines expressiveness: They produce unsteadiness and movement feelings. These feelings give inclined lines the sensation of dynamism.

DEFINITIONS ABOUT THE PLANE OR FLAT SHAPE:

Plane: Also called shape in visual arts. It could be a spot or a brush stroke. It is a two-dimensional surface, with height and width but not depth, it has position and direction in the space.

The plane Three-dimensional capacity: One of the main goals of the plane consists in creating volume when several flat shapes get together in different directions.

Flat organic shapes: They follow natural principles and can take countless appearances.

Flat geometric shapes: They follow mathematical principles. There are mainly three basic shapes: circle, square and triangle.

DEFINITIONS ABOUT TEXTURE:

Texture: It is the visual and tactile quality of the surfaces due to the material.

Tactile textures: Are those that can be perceived through the sense of touch.

Visual textures: Those which can only be perceived through the sense of sight.

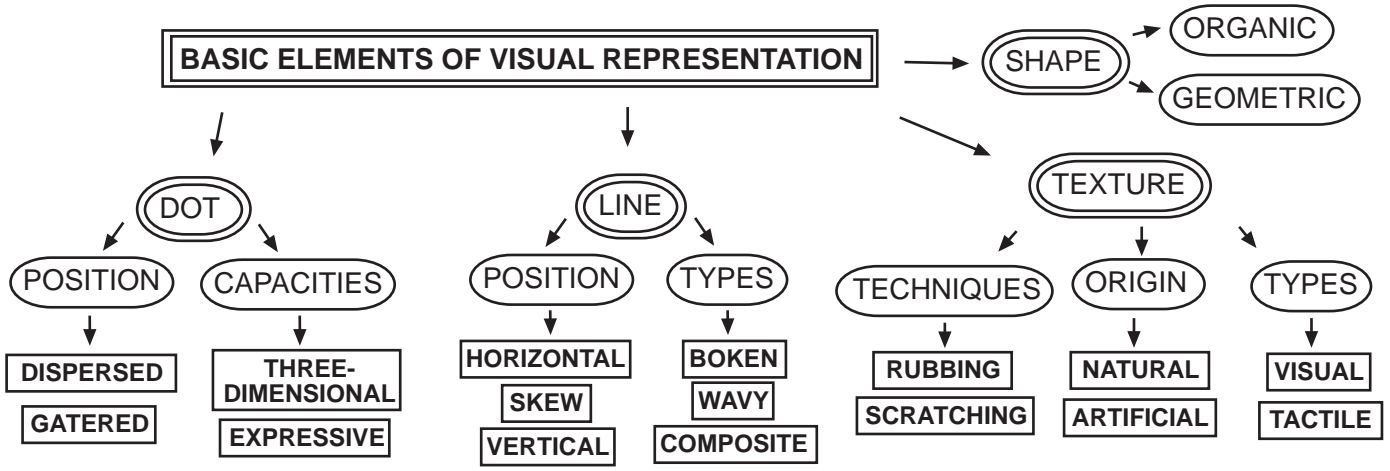
Natural textures: Those that can be found in nature.

Artificial texture: Are those created by the human being manually or mechanically.

Rubbing technique: It consists in frictioning or rubbing a crayon or colored pencil on a thin paper which is over a surface with a tactile texture so the texture gets copied over the paper.

Scratching technique: It's usually done with waxed colors and it consists in giving two layers of color to the media (paper, wood, etc) being the second one darker. So when scratching on the first layer the second one shows up.

BASIC ELEMENTS OF VISUAL REPRESENTATION



THE DOT, VOCABULARY:

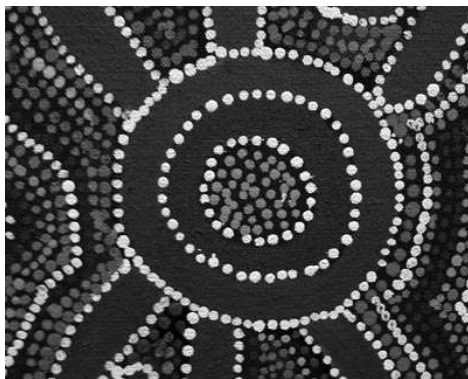
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Match these pictures with their authors following the descriptions below:



Yayoi Kusama is a famous contemporary Japanese artist whose artwork is crowded with dots. Most of the times Kusama's dots look like polka dots. She makes paintings, costumes or spaces crowded with them.

Roy Lichstein was an American pop artist who used the aesthetic of comic and printed images that always have dots as well because of the procedure of printing.

The **aboriginal art** is an ancient, but also modern, way of representing any kind of images in Australia. This type of images use the dot constantly.

Robert Delaunay, from France, was one of the first abstract painters. He loved representing circles in his artworks.

Source: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/enkaytee/>



Joie de vivre
Source: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/enkaytee/>



I will pray with all my love for tulips.
Source: regbit.blogspot.com



1964
Source: regbit.blogspot.com

Here you can watch a [Youtube video](#) showing Obliteration room. An art installation by Yayoi Kusama related to dots.
<http://youtu.be/-xNzr-fJHQw>



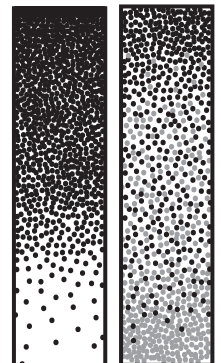
here you can watch a [Youtube video](#) showing "Soul under the moon" (Infinity room). Another art installation by Yayoi Kusama related to dots.
<http://youtu.be/s1rcJZRqZH8>



TWO WAYS OF FILLING IN SURFACES WITH DOTS:

Dots gathering: When several dots are put together too close to each other they are perceived as color spots.

Dots dispersion /spreading: When several dots are dispersed from each other.



FROM OLD SCHOOL POINTILLISM TO ROBERT SILVERS PHOTOMOSAICS

On the right there is an artwork detail by Seurat. This painter belonged to a group of impressionist painters called **POINTILLISTS** because of their style. They composed the images with pure colors little brushstrokes that actually get mixed being the artwork viewed from the distance. That way of mixing colors with the distance is called "optical mix"



La parade de cirque. Seurat.1888.
Source:<http://commons.wikimedia.org/>

Robert Silvers is a pioneer in the technique of **PHOTO-MOSAIC**. This technique is about composing images with little tiny pictures that are usually related to the main theme. The little pictures work as dots to compose the images.



Louis Amstrong.R.Silvers.2000
Source:<http://www.photomosaic.com/>



Detail of Another Photomosaic online

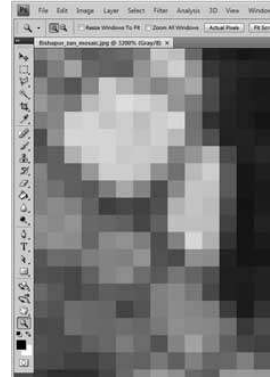
FROM ANCIENT MOSAICS TO COMPUTER BIT MAPS AND PIXELS



Marble mosaic, ca. 260 AD . From the palace of Shapur at Bishapur, Iran. At Louvre.
Source:http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Bishapur_zan.jpg

Mosaic is artistic technique consisting in creating images assembling of small pieces of colored glass, stone, or other materials. So we can consider mosaics as dotted images. Most mosaics are made of small, flat, square, pieces of different colors, known as tesserae (from latin tesera). Mosaics are also made by modern artists.

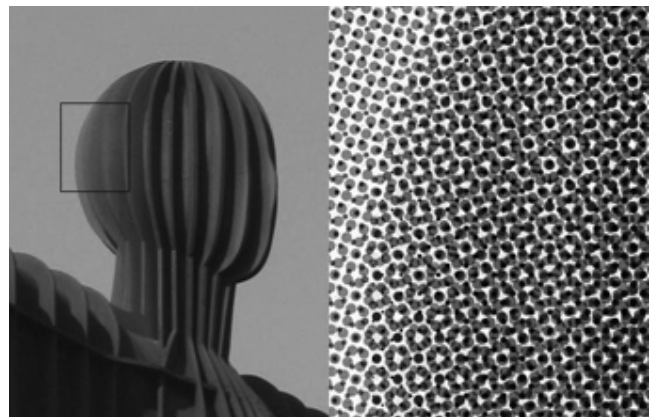
Bit maps are computer images composed by little tiny square dots. These dots are actually squares and are called pixels. Depending on the size of the pixels images have higher or lower resolution. Resolution is usually measured in "Pixels per inch" (ppi). A good quality or resolution for regular or normal computer screens is 72 ppi, while a good resolution for printing is 300 ppi.



Zoom In: pixels in Photoshop.



Human mosaic in Mestalla Stadium.Valencia 14-5-2004
Source: <http://www.mediavida.com/>



Printing spot or dots process.
Source:http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Bishapur_zan.jpg

Watch **Robert Silvers** webpage and his Photomosaics .



Watch **The human printer** video on vimeo an learn the process for printing with colored dots.



<http://www.photomosaic.com/>

<http://vimeo.com/61119339>

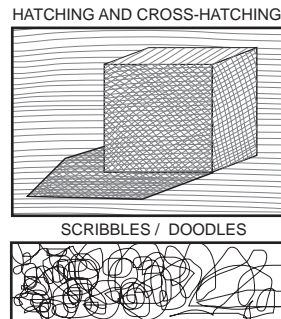
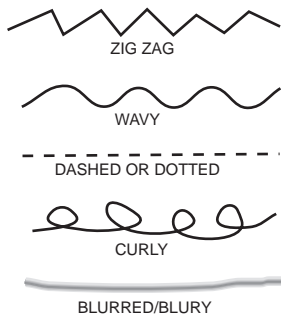
Fill in the gaps using the words given below:

Robert Silvers uses little..... to compose his.....
 The little fotografies work aswhich set together..... a bigger image.
 Pointillists made their artworks using a similar..... .They used their..... to paint small colored dots that, seen from the distance, form figurative representations
 This way of..... things is also used by computer design. BIT MAPS are a kind of image files in which dots are, called..... , have a.....shape.

TECHNIQUE SQUARED PICTURES PIXELS BRUSHES ARTWORKS DOTS SHOW DEPICTING

SOME VOCABULARY ABOUT LINES:

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Blurred: They are very soft or vanished so they are hard to see and opposite to intense and deep.

Simple Lines: Those that are formed by only one line.

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EXPRESSIVENESS OF LINES

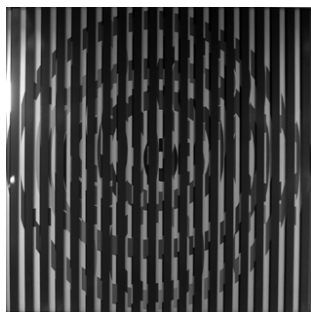
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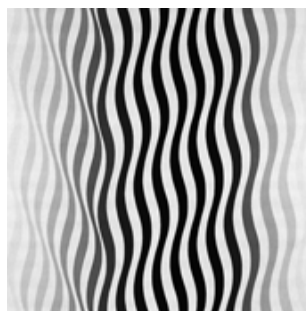
ARTISTS AND MOVEMENTS THAT USE LINES:

Many artists have worked with lines. Bridgette Riley also liked to work with lines, as well as dots, trying to give many different impressions of movement or depth to the people observing her artwork. Eusebio Sempere was a Spanish (Onil, Alicante) artist who also used lines in a similar way to Bridgette Riley. Thomas Pavitte is a current artist living in Australia who likes to make artworks playing the classic game of connecting dots labeled with numbers following the right order. Yaacov Agam is a kinetic artist from Israel who also uses lines as a media for expression.



Work by Yaacov Agam.
Sheba Medical Center, Israel
Source: <http://commons.wikimedia.org/>

Bridgette Riley. Arrest 1965
Source: <http://wikipaintings.org/>



E. Sempere. Reflejos 1978
Source: <http://www.ilusionario.es/>

Thomas Pavitte. Detail
Source: <http://thomasmakesstuff.com/>



Watch [Eusebio Sempere webpage](#), he was a spanish (Alicante Geometric abstract painter who used colored lines in most of his artworks
<http://www.eusebio-sempere.com/>



Watch this [Thomas Pavitte video](#), So you can unsertand better his working process on connecting dots with lines
<http://youtu.be/wxTk3GwX88>



Watch [Thomas Pavitte website](#) to see some of his current artwork.
<http://thomasmakesstuff.com/>



STRIPES

And clothing design also uses lines a lot. When something is covered or decorated with long bands or lines we call it STRIPED, this type of lines, in a decorative or clothing, sence are called STRIPES.

DEFINITIONS ABOUT THE PLANE OR FLAT SHAPE:

Plane: Also called shape in visual arts. It could be a spot or a brushstroke. It is a two-dimensional surface, height and width but not depth, it has position and direction on the space.

The plane Three-dimensional capacity: One of the main goals of the plane consists on creating volume when several flat shapes get together in different directions.

Flat organic shapes: They follow natural principles and can take countless appearances.

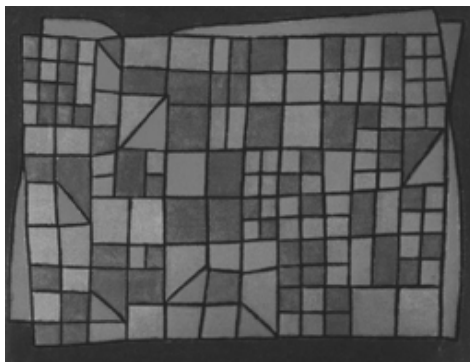
Flat geometric shapes: They follow mathematical principles. In visual arts there are three main basic geometric shapes: circle, square and triangle.

PAUL CEZANNE:

Paul Cézanne was a French artist and Post-Impressionist painter. Cézanne used repetitively exploratory brushstrokes or color planes, which were highly characteristic and clearly recognizable. He used planes of colour and small brushstrokes that build up to form complex fields. It is said that Cézanne's artwork inspired Picasso to start Cubism which was another artistic movement that used planes to build up their characteristic depictions in which planes are one of the main characters.



The card players by Cezanne hit the record for the highest price ever for a work of art in 2012 when it was sold in an auction for \$250 million.



PAUL KLEE:

Klee was a Swiss artist who lived in Germany. He is related to many artistic movements. But what he always loved the most was studying the color in his artwork. For that he many times used colored planes or flat shapes with lots of different qualities.

Glass facade. Paul Klee. 1940

Source: <http://www.wikipaintings.org/en/paul-klee/glass-facade-1940>

The card Players. Cezanne. 1892-1895

Source: <http://commons.wikimedia.org/>

DEFINITIONS ABOUT TEXTURE:

Texture: It is the visual and tactile quality of the surfaces due to the material.

Tactile textures: Are those that can be perceived through the sense of touch.

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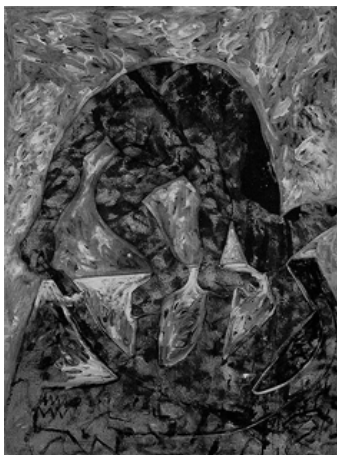
Natural textures: Those that can be found in nature.

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Rubbing technique: It consists on frictioning or rubbing a crayon or colored pencil on a thin paper which is over a surface with a tactile texture so the texture gets copied on the paper.

Scratchboarding: It is usually done with waxed colors and it consists on giving two coats of color to the media (paper, wood, etc) being the second one darker. So when scratching over the first layer the second one shows up.

MIQUEL BARCELÓ:



Miquel Barceló is a Spanish artist born in Mallorca in 1957. He is one of the most famous and popular Spanish artist in the moment.

His Artworks mix many kinds of materials and usually show a richness of textures.

One of his latest works was the Mural painted in the UN (United nations) Dome in the hall or human rights in Geneva which has been called the UN Sixtine Chapel and was a bit controversial.

For that work he filled in with stalactite forms plenty of bright colors all the surface of the dome.

Pintagossos. Miquel Barceló. 1982

Source: <http://www.miquelbarcelo.info/>

Watch a video of **Miquel Barceló** making his dome for the United nations in Geneva.

<https://goo.gl/zRkUum>



Watch some pictures of the **human rights hall dome at ONU** making process and final result by **Miquel Barceló** in which textures are the most impressive feature.

<http://goo.gl/u18LQV>



IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS RELATED TO THE SHAPE:

Shape: It is the external appearance of an object or element in an image.

TYPES OF SHAPES ACORDING THEIR ORIGIN

Natural shapes: They are the ones related to nature. They haven't been created by any human.

Artificial shapes: Shapes which have been created by humans or mechanical procedures.

TYPES OF SHAPES ACORDING THEIR STRUCTURE

Organic shapes / Free forms: They are shapes that have irregular profile or silhouette as well as their inner surface. Organic shapes are usually natural even though they are sometimes artificial.

Geometric shapes: Shapes which parts follow a mathematic order, laws or pattern.

Flat shapes: They have two dimensions such a paper sheet , a cinema screen or a canvas.

Form: They are volumetric shapes, they appear and are three-dimensional.

OPEN AND CLOSED SHAPES:

Closed shapes: Space that is completely enclosed by a line, or unbroken contour. The outline is generally well defined.

Open shapes: Space, shape or spot that is not completely enclosed by a line. Usually the content of these shapes comes out to get mixed with other elements or the background.

PARTS OF A SHAPE

Outline: It is the line enclosing the shape of an object in a drawing or image. In art it is sometimes called **contour**.

Silhouette: It is a shape filled up with a **solid color**, just like a shadow.

Infill: The inner part of a shape. It is usually formed by lines, dots, colors and textures.

VISUAL EFFECTS WITH SHAPES

Overlapping shapes: They are shapes that cover theirselves partially creating a visual effect of depth.

Changing shape's size: Bigger shapes seem to be closer, while the smaller ones are perceived as if they were further, therefore this creates the ilusion of depth.

Contrasting colored shapes: Color or profile contrasts also transmit depth visual effects as well as other sensations. For example, warm colors shapes stand out and seem to be closer than cold shapes which appear to be further.

TYPES OF IMAGES OR DEPICTIONS

Figurative image/ Figuration: They are images with a fidelity to reality, so it is possible to relate them to the elements in real world that they are referring. Figuration has different degrees of fidelity depending on how much similar to the model the image is.

Realism: The realistic and natural representation of people, places, and/or things in a work of art. A realistic drawing or paint is very similar to the model.

Abstract image/ Abstraction: They are art depictions which content is not possible to recognize or compare to any daily life image.

WAYS OF DRAWNG OR DEPICTING:

Sketched image / Sketch: They are the first aproach to depicting an image. They ususally don't show any color, and they use a simple outline drawing with basic figures composing the image.

Image simplification: Instead of being realistic, they are images that tend to make any detail or figure as an scheme of the original model.

Image distortion: The author of this kind of drawings or paintings represents the image reshaping the original model or image, which is changing its proportions or showing the figures somehow moved.

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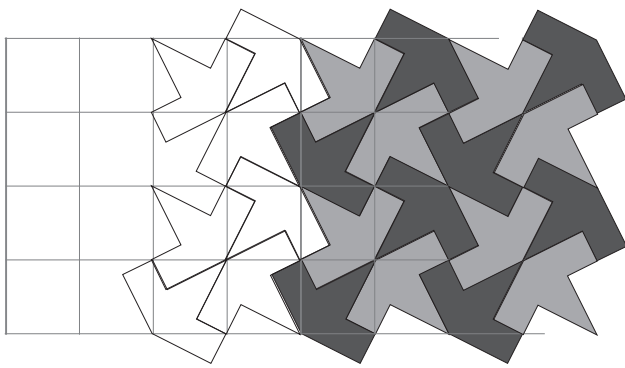
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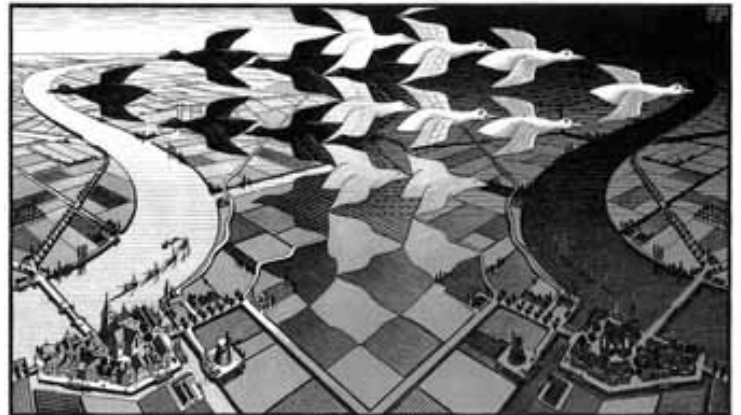
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GEOMETRIC AND ORGANIC TILINGS

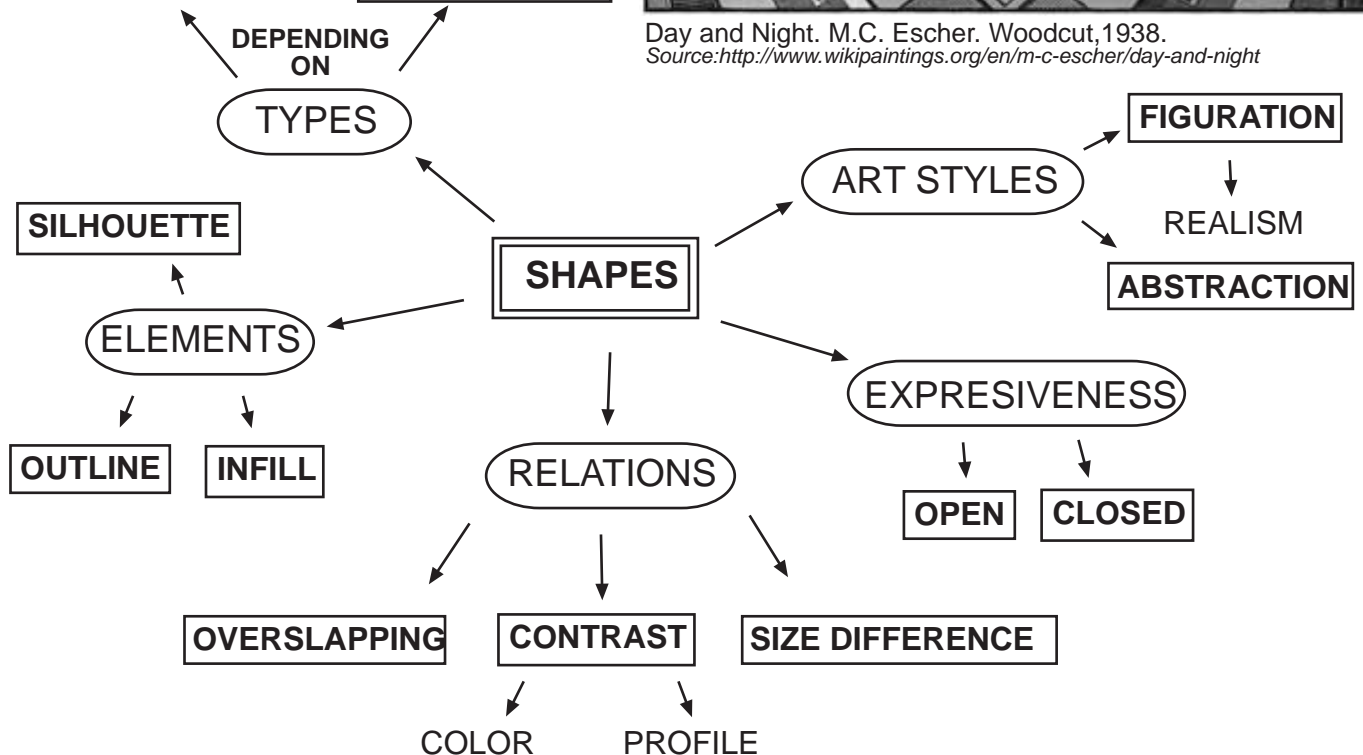
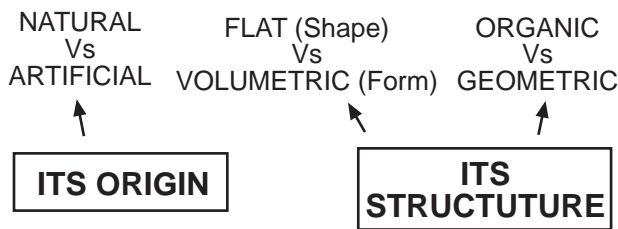
In visual arts **tiles** are design units that are repeated to form a structure. Tiles can hold any kind of shape and contents. and they can generate different types of grids.



On the left we can see the Alhambra Pattern or tiling repeating a tile or shape called "the pigeon" which is a totally geometric shape. M.C. Escher (Picture below) was a Dutch artist who got inspired in La Alhambra to create new and original tilings with shapes that weren't as much geometric and more organic



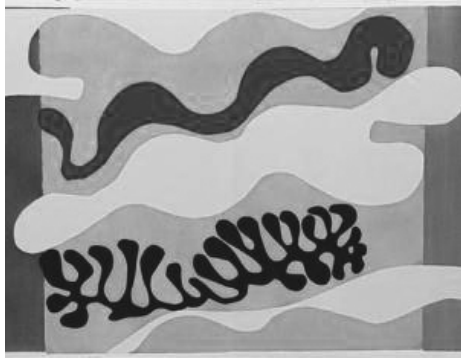
Day and Night. M.C. Escher. Woodcut, 1938.
Source: <http://www.wikipaintings.org/en/m-c-escher/day-and-night>



ARTISTS THAT PLAYED WITH THE SHAPES' INFILL AND SILHOUETTES

- Rene Magritte (1898-1967): He was a Belgian surrealist painter. He sometimes liked to change the infill of the shapes for the backgrounds content.
- Gustav Klimt (1862 -1918): was an Austrian symbolist painter whose shapes' infills were may times too particular being filled with golden colors and basic visual elements.
- Henri Émile Benoît Matisse (1869 -1954): French Fauvist painter who used bright pure color silhouettes in his paintings and collages.

Using the clues you have been given, Observe the paints in this sheet and try to guess whose paint is each one:



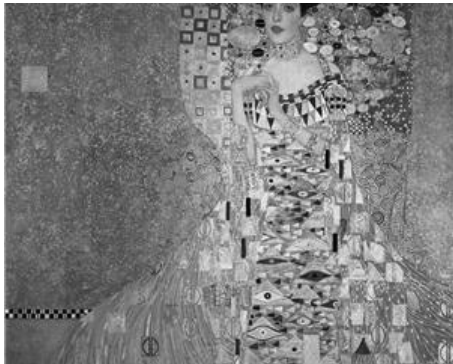
The Lagoon 2.1947.
By _____



The False mirror.1928.
By _____



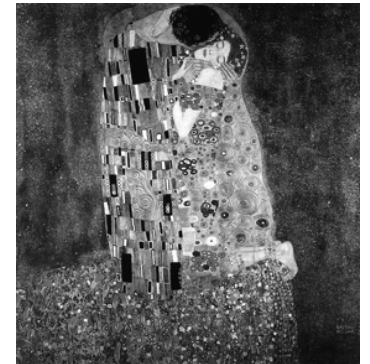
The flowing hair 2.1952.
By _____



Portrait of adele bloch bauer.1907.
By _____



The promise.1966.
By _____



The kiss.1907-1908.
By _____

All pictures above source:<http://www.wikipaintings.org/>

MORE ABOUT SILHOUETTES

Watch this short [Youtube video of a chinese hands shadow show](http://youtu.be/hFe7eLwAXoc), and see how they use their hands to make different silhouettes.



Above: Tam Gram pieces, silhouette and solution

Chinese hands shadowing is a very ancient way to represent mostly animals.

Tam Gram is an ancient Chinese game which consist in silhouettes searching or guessing from some polygons that form a full square silhouette or combined differently infinite shapes.

Some street artist use stencils to achieve their paints, Stencil is a perfect technique to represent any kind of silhouettes.

The traffic (or any kind) of signs which need to communicate any information usually use silhouettes to represent the idea they need to show.



Graffiti by Banksy.

Source:<http://www.popularresistance.org/bloomberg-threatens-banksy-with-arrest-for-outside-art/>

Source:http://www.redtedart.com/2011/11/02/kids-craft-shadow-puppets-cereal-box-theatre-we-heart-it-eo4wke64l-127354-462-700_large/



Chinese hands shadow poster.



OPEN AND CLOSED SHAPES:

Closed shapes: Space that is completely enclosed by a line, or unbroken contour. the outline is generally well defined.

Open shapes: Space that is not completely enclosed by a line. Usually the content of these shapes comes out to get mixed with other elements or the background.

William Turner (1775-1851) was an English painter specialized in landscapes.

His landscapes are very particular because they are usually shown as foggy. In order to get this visual effect Turner used a lot of open shapes.



Dynamism of a dog on a leash. Giacomo Balla. 1912.
Source: <http://www.artexpertswebsite.com/pages/artists/balla.php>



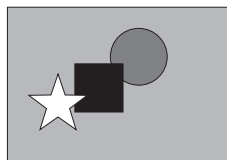
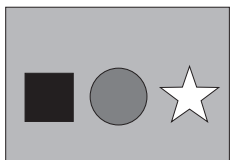
Wreckers, Coast of Northumberland.
William Turner, 1834. Source: <http://en.wikipedia.org/>

Futurism was a movement in the XX century which painters also used open shapes. In this case they wanted to show the sensation of movement in their paintings.

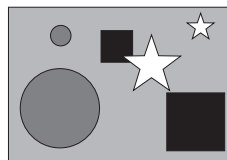
What kind of feelings or emotions do these paintings lead you to?
Do these paintings make you think of the idea of motion?

ILLUSTRATING THE DEFINITIONS BELOW

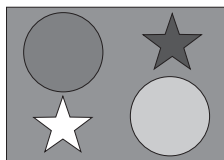
Below these lines you can see some boxes with a few shapes. The box on the left just has shapes one next to each other. No visual resources have been used. The following boxes use different arranging ways to create the sense of depth.



Overlapping shapes



Changing sizes



Contrasting color or values

Watch this short [Youtube video](#) telling us the difference between shapes and forms.

<http://youtu.be/JfUIEBUFAF4>



Watch this short [Youtube video](#) telling us a quick review about shapes in art.

<http://youtu.be/Y5vEjhemIA>



MORE IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS RELATED TO THE SHAPE:

Overlapping shapes: They are shapes that cover themselves partially creating a visual effect of depth.

Changing shape's size: Bigger seem to be closer while the smaller ones are perceived as if they were farther therefore this creates the illusion of depth.

Contrasting colored shapes: Color or value contrasts also transmit depth visual effects as well as other sensations. For example warm colors stand out and seem to be closer than cold shapes which appear to be farther. Lighter values get the shapes look closer indoors, while lighter values make the shapes look further in outdoors depictions.

Figurative image/ Figuration: They are images with a fidelity to reality, so it is possible to relate them to the elements in real world that they are referring. It has different degrees of fidelity depending on how much the image is similar to the model.

Realism: The realistic and natural representation of people, places, and/or things in a work of art. A realistic drawing or paint is very similar to the model.

Abstract image/ Abstraction: They are art representations which content is not possible to recognize or compare to any image of daily life.

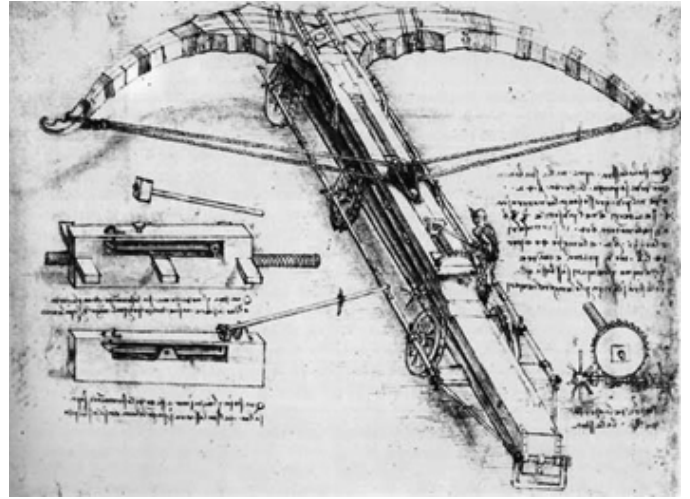
TYPES OF IMAGES OR DEPICTIONS DEPENDING ON THE WAY THEY HAVE BEEN DONE:

Sketched image or sketch: Consists on the first approach to depicting an image. They usually don't show any color, and they used a simple outline drawing with basic figures composing the image.

Image distortion: The author of this kind of drawings or paintings represents the image distorting the original model or image, That is changing its proportions or showing the figures somehow moved.



Self portrait. Francis Bacon. 1969.
Source: <http://www.artrepublic.com/>



Crossbow, Codex Atlanticus. L. Da Vinci, 1478-1519.
Source: <http://en.wikipedia.org//>

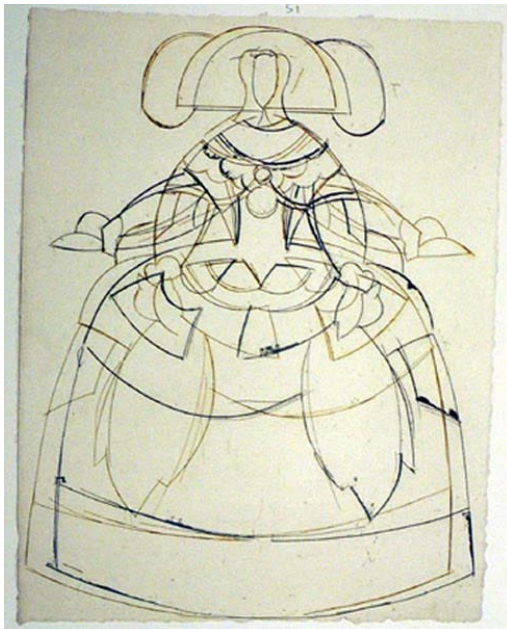
EASY QUESTION:

Which of the following pictures on the right you think is the sketch and which one the distortion? Why?

Above Left: You can see a **self portrait** by Francis Bacon. His portray style show big distortions that seem to be caused by some kind of motion.

Above Right: Leonardo Da Vinci made A **sketch book** with thousands of pages all of them filled in with sketches of all sort of things such as imaginary inventions, body anatomy or plants. He mostly used outline drawings and may be some chiaroscuro.

Image simplification: Instead of being realistic, they are images that tend to make any detail or figure as a scheme of the original model.



Menina. Manolo Valdés. 2000.
Source: <http://www.galeriaaaurora.com/valdes-manolo-las-meninas-dp8>



Las Meninas. Picasso. 1958.
Source: <http://ca.wikipedia.org/>

Above: Two versions of Meninas are shown. On the right there is a version by Picasso which shows his very particular cubist style sometimes using image simplifications. On the left you can see a Manolo Valdés, Spanish artist famous for his meninas versions, Sketched image that also shows some image simplification.

By clicking on [this link](#) you will see a bunch of famous artwork and different versions of them in a laslaminas.es Pinterest Gallery



<http://www.pinterest.com/laslaminas/artwork-versions/>

IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS ABOUT COLOR

Color: It is a basic element of visual language. It is a light impression that arrives to the eyes which send the information to the brain.

Subtractive mixture: Happens when we mix all the colors, or the three primary in equal parts, together and we get black as a result of the mixture.

Primary colors: They are the ones that cannot be obtained by mixing any other colors. In subtractive colors they are: Yellow, Cyan (which is a kind of blue), and Magenta.

Secondary colors: They are the ones that are obtained from the mix of two primary colors in equal parts. They are Red, Green and Blue.

Color wheel: It is a round diagram in which the primary colors are arranged as far as possible from each other and the secondary, sometimes tertiary, in between them. Warm and cold (cool) colors are in the opposite half of the wheel, and complementary colors are in front of each other.

Solid Color: When a surface is filled in with one single color with no hue, value or saturation variations and with no other kind of infill.

Monochrome: It is an adjective for an image, picture or drawing which has only one color range.

Polychrome: It is an adjective for an image, picture or drawing that has several colors.

THE THREE PROPERTIES OF COLOR

Hue: Also called Tone or tint, it is the name of the color defined by its wavelength.

Saturation: Degree of purity of a color. If a color is very saturated it means that it is very pure and doesn't have many colors in its mix.

Value: Sometimes called brightness or luminosity. It is the amount of black or white that a color has in its mix.

PAINT INGREDIENTS

Pigments: A powder that is mixed with a binder to give a paint, ink, ect. color. Pigments come from plants, animals, vegetals, etc. and are usually given chemical treatments.

Binding medium or binder: An ingredient on paint, ink or dye that makes adhere pigments together and to the surface.

Palette / pallet: A flat piece of wood, plastic, etc, used by artists as a surface on which to mix their paints. Also the range of colours featuring a particular artist, painting. A restricted palette occurs when a painting has been done only some colors.

Solvent: A (usually) liquid substance which is able to dissolve the paint, either for cleaning, thinning, mixing, or some particular step in an art technique.

COLOR HARMONY

Color Harmony: It is an theoretic area of color that studies and deals about color combinations.

Color range: Also called scale of colors. It is a number of different colors which change, step by step, from the first to the last one. Ranges can be leaded by variations of value, hue or saturation.

Warm range: It is a scale of colors that has either more yellow, more magenta, or both in its mixture. They express warmth, energy, youthness or proximity

Cold / cool range: It is a scale of colors that has more cyan or blue in its mixture than any other color. They are set on one side of the color wheel and transmit the temperature sensation of coldness and distance.

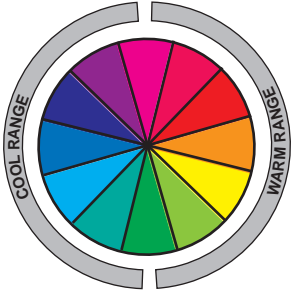
Contrast: It is a way of putting colors together so they look very different from each other. The contrast that calls the attention the most is the one made out with complementary colors.

Analogous color: They are two or more colors that are next to each other on the color wheel and are closely related.

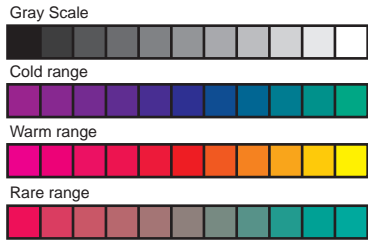
Complementary colors: They are pairs of colors which are located one in front of each other on the color wheel. A complementary of a primary is formed by the mix of the other two primary in equal parts.

Gray Scale: (Grey UK) It is a set of colors which only has any color between black and white, it contains a scale of grays.

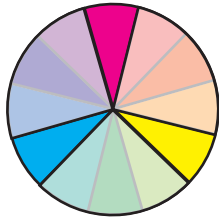
COLOR WHEEL



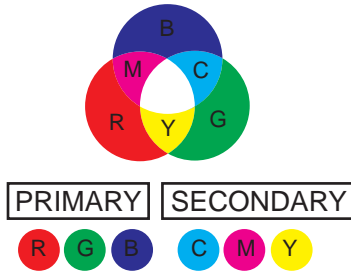
RANGES



PRIMARY



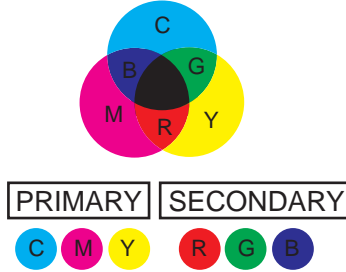
ADDITIVE: RGB



SECONDARY



SUBTRACTIVE: CMY

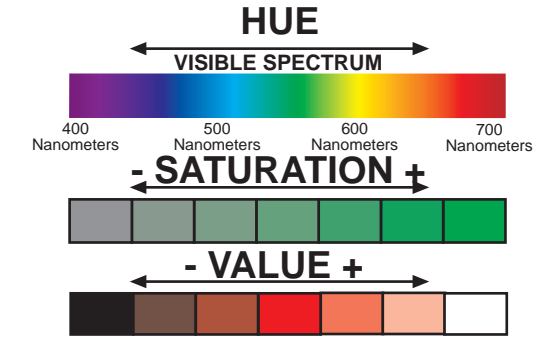


TERTIARY

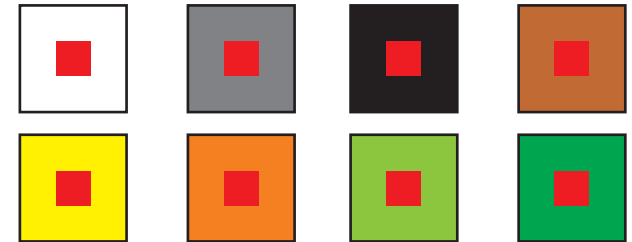


RARE COLORS

COMPLEMENTARY	RARE
30% Red + 70% Cyan	= Gray
70% Red + 30% Cyan	= Brown
30% Orange + 70% Blue	= Purple
70% Orange + 30% Blue	= Green



CONTEXT / SIMULTANEOUS CONTRAST

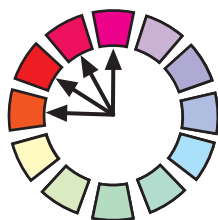


COLOR HARMONY

COMPLEMENTARY



ANALOGOUS



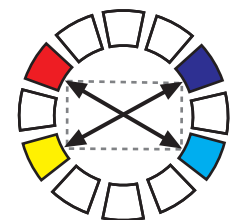
SPLIT COMPLEMENTARY



TRIAD



DOUBLE COMPLEMENTARY



COLOR SUBJECTIVE SYMBOLISM

- RED:** Intense, fire, blood, energy, war, danger, love, passionate, strong, ambition, aggression, alertness, braveness, dominating, dramatic, emotional, energetic, erotic...
- PURPLE:** Royalty, power, nobility, wealth, ambition, dignified, mysterious, aristocracy, art, anxiety, beauty, compassion, conflict, dream, dignity, enigma, extravagance...
- YELLOW:** Sunshine, joy, cheerfulness, intellect, energy, attention-getter, activity, aspiration, alertness, brightness, richness, happiness, idealism, imagination...
- BLUE:** Sky, sea, depth, stability, trust, masculine, acceptance, authority, balance, calmness, coolness, cooperation, culture, depression, distance, honesty, ...
- GREEN:** Nature, growth, fertility, freshness, healing, safety, money, adventure, balance, efficiency, cleanliness, faith, freedom, generosity, good luck, poison, health, outdoors...
- ORANGE:** Warm, stimulating, enthusiasm, happiness, success, creative, autumn, action, appetite, assurance, exaggerated, competent, cheerful, tiring, outrageous...

Scann the QR on the right or [click here](#) to access the COLOR playlist in laslaminas.es youtube channel.



Scann the QR on the right or [click here](#) to access the COLOR gallery in laslaminas.es/Pinterest



Scann the QR on the right or [click here](#) to access the COLOR section in laslaminas.es.

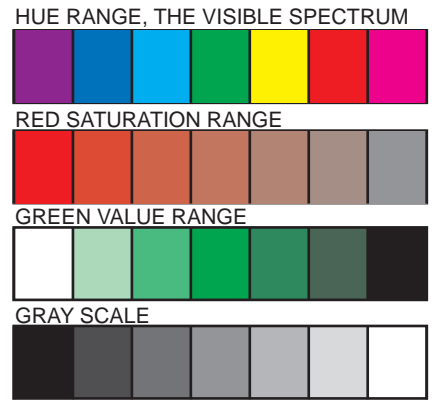
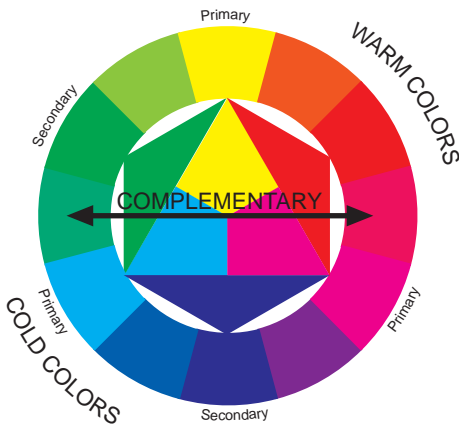


laslaminas.es

COLOR THEORY
QUICK GUIDE

Page:
2 of 2

Johannes Itten COLOR WHEEL



Color is present in our daily lives everyday, from sunrise to sunset. We all know what color is, however it is some way difficult to give a definition. We could say that **color doesn't exist cause it totally depends on the light**. If there's no light there's no color. Color is actually a **sensation or impression, it is a thought our brain has when it receives information from the eyes**. It travels through the air as electromagnetic waves. Those waves come from the light the objects' surfaces reflect. So there are basically two types of colors: Colored light and colored materials. Colored Light, **additive color**, is a little harder to understand and explain and it can be studied from the Physics area of knowledge. Material colors, also called **subtractive mixture**, are easier to understand and are all of them based in colored **pigments** mixed with a **binder**, both of them are the main ingredients for any paint. **Color Harmony** studies all types and classification of colors as well as the ways to combine them in compositions.

COLOR TEMPERATURE: COLD AND WARM RANGES.

A **cold color harmony picture** is the one which has colors belonging to a **cold range**. A cold range is a set of colors whose main color in their mixture is blue or cyan. Here, on the right, you have an example.

Photographers measure the **temperature** of their pictures in Kelvin degrees attending to the range of colors showing in.

Cold colors, apart from temperature **express calmness, peace, silence, distance**, etc.

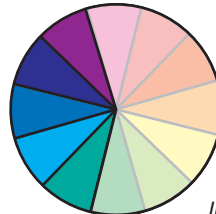


Image source: http://www.sindark.com/wp/wp-content/uploads/2009/01/img_2267.jpg



A **warm color harmony** image is the one that has colors related to a warm range. A warm range is formed by colors whose main colors in their mixture are **yellow, magenta or red**. See this example on the left.

Warm color images transmit energy, proximity, a high temperature, etc.



Sunset at Samurai Beach NSW Australia
25 January 2004. User: Warrenlead69
Image source: <http://commons.wikimedia.org/>

Learn why the color wheel is so important and how to use it by watching this short **Youtube video**



<http://youtu.be/59QGexKdFUI>

This **Youtube video** explains clearly the concepts of hue, value and saturation by showing variations of a cat picture.



<http://youtu.be/f31EHNzGTUI>

This **Youtube video** explains the color wheel along with hue, value and saturation with photoshop.



<http://youtu.be/fE6BmrVYxCI>

FLOWERS ARE RED. BY HARRY CHAPIN

The little boy went first day of school
He got some crayons and started to draw
He put colors all over the _____
For colors was what he saw
And the teacher said.. What you doin' young man
I'm paintin' flowers he said
She said... It's not the time for art young man
And anyway flowers are green and red
There's a time for everything young man
And a way it should be done
You've got to show concern for _____ else
For you're not the only one
And she said...
Flowers are red young man
Green leaves are green
There's no need to see flowers any other way
Than the way they always have been seen
But the little boy said...
There are so many colors in the rainbow
So many colors in the morning sun
So many colors in the flower and I see every one
Well the teacher said.. You're sassy
There are ways that things should be
And you'll paint flowers the _____ they are
So repeat after me.....
And she said...
Flowers are red young man
Green leaves are green
There's no need to see flowers any other way
Than the way they always have been seen
But the little boy said...
There are so many colors in the rainbow
So many colors in the morning sun
So many colors in the flower and I see every one

The teacher put him in a _____
She said.. It's for your own good..
And you won't come out 'til you get it right
And all responding like you should
Well finally he got _____
Frightened thoughts filled his head
And he went up to the teacher
And this is what he said.. and he said

Flowers are red, green leaves are green
There's no need to see flowers any other way
Than the way they always have been seen

Time went by like it always does
And they moved to another _____
And the little boy went to another school
And this is what he found
The teacher there was smilin'
She said...Painting should be fun
And there are so many colors in a flower
So let's use every one

But that little boy painted flowers
In neat rows of green and red
And when the teacher asked him why
This is what he said.. and he said

Flowers are red, green leaves are green
There's no need to see flowers any other way
Than the way they always have been seen.

Watch this [animated video clip in Youtube of this song](#) and try to fill in the blanks.

<http://youtu.be/qeJJOjb7fj4>



COLOR VALUES AND VARIATIONS: DARK AND LIGHT.

You know that colors have different **degrees of hue, value, saturation**. But this is a specific way to talk about color. This three qualities of color are used by artists and designers.

So, How do regular people talk about color?

People mostly use two adjectives to describe the quality of a color. They use the word **light or pale** meaning that the color contains **more white** in its mixture and **dark** meaning that the color contains **more black** on it's mixture:

Read this example in this short conversation:

-Is Susan wearing a light blue dress?

-No, she doesn't! Her dress is not light blue at all!, Susan's dress is dark red.

DARK BLUE

PALE BLUE

DARK RED

LIGHT RED

A NAME AND THE NAME OF THE COLOR.

We can also add a name in front of the color name, so we are explaining what color we are referring more accurately:

navy blue

denim blue

cherry red

baby blue

canary yellow

red hot

dusky red

lemon yellow

emerald green

bottle green

grass green

golden yellow



COLOR-ISH

When something looks like a color but it is not exactly the same color that we are thinking we can add the suffix **-ISH** to the name of the color and that way we express the thing we are referring looks like pretty much like that color.

Read this short dialogue to understand the use of this suffix:

- Mike has a very nice dog, have you seen it?
- No I haven't. What color is it?
- It's brownish with white spots.

COMPLETE THE SENTENCES WITH THE RIGHT WORD

RED-VIOLET-MAGENTA-BLACK-ORANGE-BROWN-GRAY-PINK-GREEN-YELLOW-DARK BLUE-CYAN



Most Poppies are



Beetroots are



Rosy dew plants are



Bulls are



This fruit is called



Trees bark is usually



Wolves are



Some roses are



Leaves are



All the sunflowers are



The sky at night is



This sky looks

All images taken from <http://commons.wikimedia.org/>
 Poppy: Mohnbluete_Durchlicht.jpg. User: Janwo
 Beetroot: Beetroot_preparing_for_curry.jpg. User: Ramesh NG
 Rosy Dew plant: Starr 080219-2882 Lampranthus roseus.jpg. User: Forest & Kim Starr
 Orange: Orange_ungeschält.JPG. User: 3268zauber
 Bark: Rombergpark-100330-11398-Kastanie-Rinde.jpg. User: Mbdortmund
 Wolf: Canis_lupus_laying_in_grass.jpg. User: John and Karen Hollingsworth

Leave: Hosta_sieboldiana_leave.jpg. User: Römert
 Sunflower: Sunflower_from_Silesia.JPG. User: Pudelek (Marcin Szala)
 Bull: Pudelek (Marcin Szala). User: Santiago Molina N.
 Night sky: Jalama_Moon_(8358022075)_2.jpg. User: John Murphy
 Rose: Tea_rose_hybrid_and_bud.JPG. User: Jebulon
 day sky: Greefus_groinks_-_A_lot_of_sky_(by-sa).jpg. User: greefus groinks

SUBTRACTIVE COLORS AND PIGMENTS

Paint is also what it is called **subtractive** mixture. When you mix all the **colors**, or the three primary in equal parts you obtain **black**.

Paint is a **substance** always composed by **Pigments** and a **binding medium**. Depending on the binding medium or **binder** we get one type of paint or other.

Oil paint uses **linseed oil** as a binder, while tempera paint used egg yolk, currently they use acrylic substances; **Encaustic** use **honeybee wax** and **resin** as binders and the pigments. That paint was used by ancient greek to pain their **outdoor sculptures** and **temples** and it lasted really long.

Paint also needs a **solvent**. So

sometimes when it is too **dry** or **thick** you can add the solvent to the paint and it will become more **liquid**. Solvents can be **alcohol**, **water** or **turpentine** depending the type of paint and its binder.

Watch this **Youtube tutorial** on how to make your own tempera paint with egg as a binding medium and pigments.

<https://youtu.be/tqTuG0h8SEg>



Indian pigments. Dan Brady
 Img. Source: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/11853009@N07/1382064216/>

ARTIST OR DESIGNERS WHO "PLAY" WITH COLORS

Many different occupations need that people who work on them "play" with colors. Colors themselves and their combinations are worth to communicate feelings or emotions or even call the attention of people who see or observe the results of a job.

ARTISTS AND PAINTERS

Artists, specially painters, are thinking constantly about which colors they use or not depending on what they want to say, transmit or explain in their art.



Guernica by Pablo Picasso. 1937. Oil on canvas.
Image source: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:PicassoGuernica.jpg>

Picasso is one of the most important artists in Art history. He lived a season painting mostly blue paints. Later he became a cubist (arts style) and painted many paintings using many different colors. The most famous painting by Picasso is "The Guernica" which represented the result of a battle during the Spanish civil war.

Why do you think Picasso used a gray scale? Do you think he was trying to communicate something special with it?

CLOTHES DESIGNERS

Clothes designers need to think about the colors they use for their creations all the time. Agatha Ruiz de la Prada is a Spanish clothes designer who is known for using bright and colorful designs

Do you have a favourite color to dress with? Do you like better colorfull clothes or more formal and less saturated?



AGATHA RUIZ DE LA PRADA

Agatha Ruiz de la Prada's Blog heading image
Image source: <http://agatharuizdelaprada-com.blogspot.com.es/>

WEB, PRESS, AND ADVERTISING



The use of color in advertising and graffic or web design is also very important. Designers need to know well the meanings of colors and which are the colors they need to use for every different purpose.

When you read a magazine or a news paper do you pay more attention to any kind of image? Do you think colors make people realize of some products?

MARCA.COM index page
Image source: <http://www.marca.com>

CONSTRUCTION AND DECORATION

Colors are also important in building design or architecture. Some buildings or even towns have a lot of personality because of their colored outside walls. The inside colors used for decoration are very important as well in order to create ambients.



Villa Joyosa (Alicante, Spain) houses
Image source: <http://trapatroles.wordpress.com/2008/11/10/la-vila-joiosa-alicante/>



Frida Kahlo house
Image source: <http://lasillaturquesa.blogspot.com.es/2011/06/la-casa-azul-de-frida-kahlo-y-diego.html>

Which colors would you use to paint the outside if you had a house? How about your own bedroom? Do you have a main color in it? would you change it?